

Welcome to the Fosse Association



Charity Registration Number 1045435



Welcome to Fosse Bank

Starting school is an exciting time for the whole family and, as parents, you will no doubt be brimming with questions and queries – we've all been there. The Fosse Association (known as the FA) is our school's Parents' Association, which you will automatically gain membership to when your child joins Fosse Bank. We want to make you feel welcome and part of the school and encourage you to become involved in our activities. We know there's a positive correlation between parental involvement and how well children do, and so we ask you to consider helping out with the many events and activities that we run. We also know your time is precious, but there are many ways you can lend a hand. This booklet provides you with information about the FA and how you can get involved.

The importance of the FA

We are fortunate to have a Parents' Association that functions as an integral part of the school community. Over the last year we have raised thousands of pounds, which have been spent on events, equipment, and resources to enhance our children's educational experience and the school's facilities.

Our association is about much more than simply fundraising, however. The FA exists to provide closer links between home and school and is an excellent way to bring parents, friends, and staff together in a social way to support the school and work towards a common goal. There are many reasons to get involved and it's fun too – just ask any of the committee members or volunteers.

The role of the committee

The committee meets on a regular basis every half term, with smaller working groups meeting as necessary to plan larger events. Subject to COVID-19-related restrictions, these are our scheduled meeting dates for 2020-21:

Friday 18th September 2020 at 09:00 in the Sports Hall

Friday 6th November 2020 at 09:00 in the Sports Hall

Friday 15th January 2021 at 09:00 in the Sports Hall

Friday 26th February 2021 at 09:00 in the Sports Hall

Friday 30th April 2021 at 09:00 in the Sports Hall

Friday 11th June 2021 at 09:00 in the Sports Hall

These are open meetings where any member can come along and find out what the association is planning, share ideas, and get involved.

Annual General Meeting (AGM)

Our Annual General Meeting is held in September and provides an excellent opportunity for all parents to come along and hear in more detail about our work, the events we have run, the funds we have raised and how the money has been spent. It is also when we elect our new committee members. This year it will be held on September 18th at 9am in the Sports Hall.

Proposed Committee members 2020-21

Joint Chair – Zilpha Tinayre-Blom (Reception parent) & Gillian Winnifrith (Year 5 parent)

Vice Chair – CJ Webb (Year 6 and Year 4 parent)

Secretary - Debbie Skinner (Kindergarten parent)

Treasurer – Ryan Botta (Reception parent)

Joint Pastoral – Debbie Scott & Monika Zalgenas (Year 1 parents)

Uniform Shop – Abi Gutteridge (Year 5 parent)

Volunteers

We welcome any help from parents, teachers, and friends, and have a growing list of volunteers who commit some of their time to helping the association. Every little helps and just one hour at an ice-cream sale on a hot day or helping with the Pumpkin Treat Trail event, or wrapping Secret Santa presents, would be invaluable. If you would like to join, please speak to a committee member – give us a call, email us at fosseassociation@fossebankschool.co.uk or just come along to our next committee meeting. There is also a volunteer slip at the end of this booklet. Co-chair Zilpha can be reached on 07970 087 847. Pastoral Committee people can be reached on 07813 636 218 (Debbie) or 07867 541 538 (Monika).

Class Representatives

Our class reps play an important role, providing a link between individual classes, parents, and the FA Committee. The support from class reps is vital when it comes to organising our main events, from selling tickets to organising rotas of helpers. Please contact your rep(s) to be added to your class's WhatsApp group or if you have any questions.

Little Fosse – Jess Thomas (07799 475 156)

Kindergarten – Yusra Mirza (07484 300 490) & Debbie Skinner (07812 703 529)

Reception – Emily Bunney (07920 268 417) & Erin Peachey (07776 070 735)

Year 1 & 2 – Debbie Scott (07813 636 218) & Monika Zalgenas (07867 541 538)

Year 3 – Russell Long (07773 731 743) & Aoife Mueller (07709 432 350)

Year 4 – Vreny Beard (07739 488 732)

Year 5 – Abi Gutteridge (07940 856 856) & Alex Playford (07585 964 543)

Year 6 – Zerina Bagwell (07887 550 931) & Tracey Banham (07979 877 617)

Support from Parentkind

The FA is a member of Parentkind, a national charity and membership organisation providing support and guidance to over 13,500 Parent Associations in England, Wales, and Northern Ireland. Membership includes comprehensive insurance cover by Zurich Insurance plc for all our association run events and gives access to support and advice on running the association plus fundraising ideas and good practice hints and tips.

Parentkind also provides resources for parents – you can sign up to receive its e-bulletin for parents here: <https://www.parentkind.org.uk/Signup>

How we raise money

Like most Parent Associations, most of our funds are raised through the events that we run. Some of our most popular events include the Christmas Market, the Annual Quiz, and the end of year Campover held in the school's beautiful grounds. Donations from parents are extremely important. You can donate time, money, items for sale, outgrown uniform, raffle prizes and auction lots, or offer your services and time.

The FA is signed up to various fundraising opportunities linked to online retailers including Amazon Smile, Easy2Name, and easyfundraising. This means we can automatically raise funds simply by purchasing items via these sites. Details are below, please do get in touch if you would like help registering.

<https://smile.amazon.co.uk>

Choose Fosse Association in the 'Supporting' option found under the search bar.



<https://www.easy2name.com/fundraising.html>

Select the 'Fundraising' tab, scroll through the list until you reach Fosse Bank TN11

FUNDRAISING

Fundraising

Group Login

Fundraising Group *

FOSSE BANK SCHOOL TN11

Easy2name operates a very successful fundraising scheme, which is a great way to raise funds for nurseries, schools and groups. Any orders we receive at www.easy2name.com or by phone will provide the group selected a generous 20% commission, which you can claim within a year of the order purchase. To help this we send occasional reminders for you to claim this commission.

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk>

Look for Fosse Bank School under 'search for a cause' and then register to link your spending to automatic donations. Please download the donation reminder which will pop up for you to click if you are on a site which will give a donation.



How we spend the money we raise

The FA Committee is responsible for deciding how the funds are spent. Usually the School Leadership Team provides a 'wish list' of items that the school would like us to consider funding.

We invite input from parents too, so if you have an idea for something which would benefit our pupils, please share it with the Committee. We can discuss it at a meeting and feed back to you.

Funds are typically spent on the 'extras' that are not provided by the school's budget, thus making our children's learning experiences so much more fulfilling and exciting. Funds are not generally spent on improving the fabric of the school building as this is the responsibility of the school. Recent items the FA has bought for the school include:

- The welly shed
- A huge, portable, interactive screen
- The playground canopy
- Additional sports equipment
- Games tables and play equipment for the playground

How we keep you up to date

Our newsletter is on ParentMail and will be emailed to you. It includes dates for your diary and information on upcoming events including additional help needed from parents. Following an event we will feed back including how much money has been raised or if we have managed to purchase something once a fundraising target has been met. If you have access to Facebook, please join the Fosse Association page.

If you would like to join our Fosse Association WhatsApp group, please let either a committee member or your class rep know. We look forward to welcoming you to our school!

FA Volunteer Information

Name:

Your child/ren's name(s):

Your child/ren's year group:

Phone number:

Email:

Any relevant skills:

Ideas and suggestions:

Please print and return this slip to a Committee member or to the school office.

Alternatively, please send to fosseassociation@fossebankschool.co.uk

Thank you for your support!